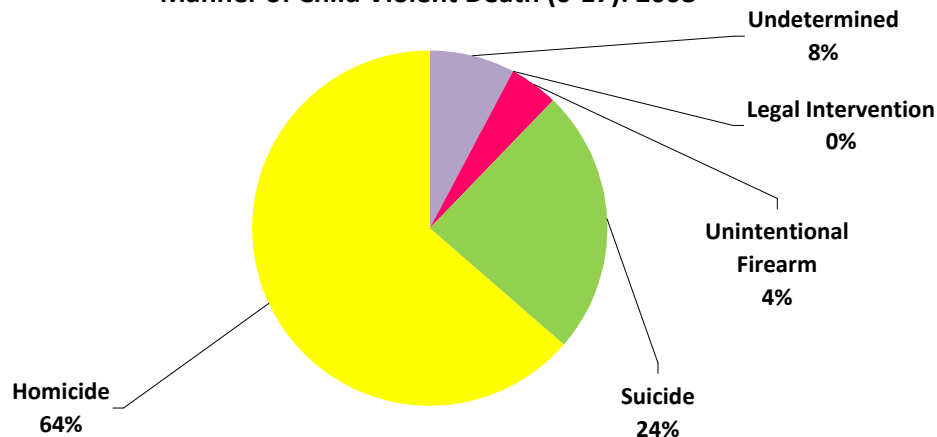


# CHILD VIOLENT DEATH IN NORTH CAROLINA

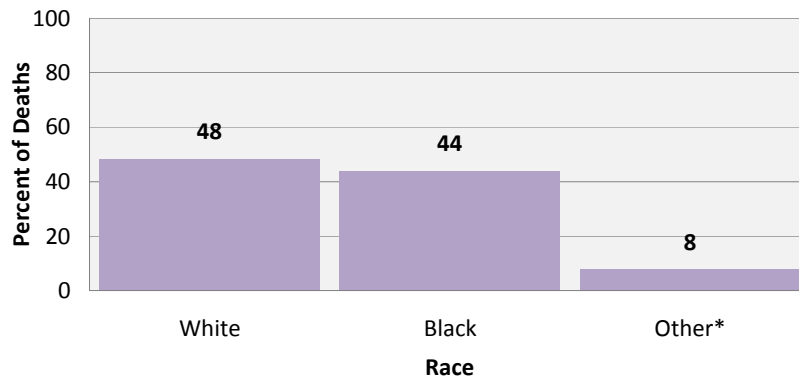
The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System (NC-VDRS) is a CDC-funded statewide surveillance system that collects detailed information on deaths that occur in N.C. resulting from violence: homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths, legal intervention, and deaths for which intent could not be determined. NC-VDRS is a multi-source system that gathers information from death certificates, medical examiner reports, and law enforcement reports. The goal of this system is to aid researchers, legislators, and community interest groups in the development of public health prevention strategies to reduce violent deaths. NC-VDRS began collecting data in January 2004. This document summarizes child violent deaths of N.C. residents for the year 2008.

**Manner of Child Violent Death (0-17): 2008**



- In 2008, there were a total of 91 violent deaths to North Carolina children between the ages of zero to seventeen.
- There were 58 homicides (64 %), 22 suicides (24 %), four unintentional firearm deaths (4 %), and seven deaths for which the Medical Examiner's Office could not determine the manner of death (8 %).
- Most of the child victims were male (69 %); only 31 percent were female.

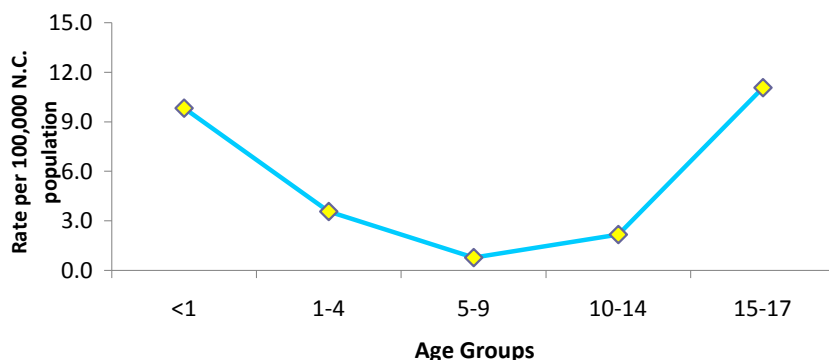
**Percent of Child Violent Deaths by Race: N.C. 2008**



\* Other includes Asian, American Indian, and other races.

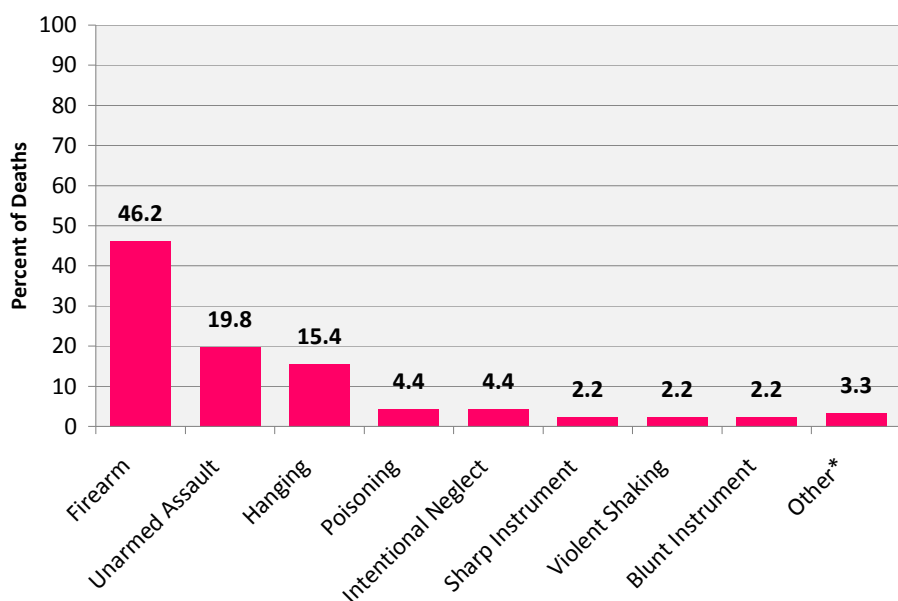
- Whites accounted for the greatest percent of deaths (48 %), but black children and those of other races had a higher *rates* of violent death: 7.7 & 8.0 per 100,000 N.C. population vs. 3.0 per 100,000 N.C. population for white children.

## Child Violent Death Rates (per 100,000 N.C. Population) by Age: 2008



- The highest child death rate occurred in the age group 15-17 years, deaths 11.1 per 100,000 children; however, the second highest *rate* (9.8 per 100,000 N.C. population) of violent death occurred in children less than one year of age.

## Method of Child Violent Death: 2008



- Firearms were involved in nearly half of all violent deaths (46 %). This percentage was propelled by the large number of firearm related deaths (28) in the 15-17 age group.

- Unarmed assault was the second most common cause of violent death in children (20 %).

- Physical abuse (unarmed assault, violent shaking & intentional neglect) was the most common cause of death in infants (<1-4 years) while firearms were the most common method of death in older children (10-17 years).

\* Other includes Fire/burn; missing & unknown

More information on child violence prevention can found at:

### State Resource Partners

#### North Carolina Division of Social Services: Child Protective Services

Contact: (919) 733-4622

[www.dhhs.nc.state.us/dss/cps.index.htm](http://www.dhhs.nc.state.us/dss/cps.index.htm)

### National Resources

#### Children's Bureau

Contact: Carlis Williams (404) 562-2900

[www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb)

The North Carolina Violent Death Reporting System is supported by Cooperative Agreement 5U17/CE423098-08 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).



N.C. Division of Public Health / [www.ncpublichealth.com](http://www.ncpublichealth.com) / Injury Epidemiology & Surveillance Unit/ 919-707-5425 / [www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov)

N.C. Violent Death Reporting System / 919-707-5432

State of North Carolina / Department of Health and Human Services / [www.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.ncdhhs.gov)

N.C. DHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider. 2008 PROVISIONAL DATA

